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(72) Inventor: **Booty, Alan**  
**Bath BA3 6HR (GB)**

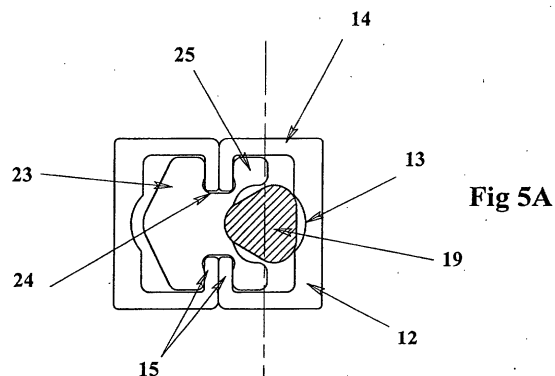
(74) Representative: **Gillam, Francis Cyril et al**  
**SANDERSON & CO.**  
**34, East Stockwell Street**  
**Colchester Essex CO1 1ST (GB)**

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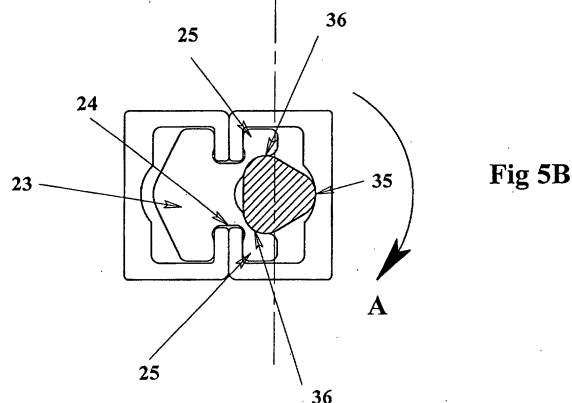
(71) Applicant: **Herman Miller Limited**  
**Bath BA2 3ER (GB)**

(54) **Channel connectors and connection methods**

(57) A connector for use with two elongate members (10,11) each having a re-entrant channel (12,14,15) extending along the length thereof is adapted to join the members (10,11) with their channels facing each other. The connector has a main body (18) defining a first portion (22) slideable in the channel of one member and a second portion (23) simultaneously slideable in the channel of the other member the channel of which confronts that of the one member. The first and second portions (22,23) are profiled to prevent withdrawal out of the mouths of the respective channels. A cam (19) is rotatably mounted on the first portion (22) and is moveable between a free position where the main body (18) may slide along its channel and a locked position where the cam (19) engages an internal wall (12) of the channel and urges a part of the first portion into engagement with a further wall (15) of the channel so as thereby to restrain sliding movement of the body, along the length of the channel.



**Fig 5A**



**Fig 5B**



European Patent  
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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 01 30 6517

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 26 May 2003	Examiner Rosborough, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
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